



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

5/Election
Krysca
8/22/03

Inventor: Hyp et al.
Serial No.: 09/900,592
Filed: July 6, 2001
Title: ELECTRICALLY OPERATED
RATCHETING PAWL LATCH

Examiner: Kyung S. Lee
Atty Doc. No. 164-01
Art Unit: 2832

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Response to Restriction/Election Requirement

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the office action dated July 3, 2003 having a one-month
statutory period for response set to expire on August 3, 2003. This response is
submitted on or before August 3, 2003.

Remarks

Applicant hereby elects, with traverse, the claims of Group I, claims 1 and 19-
32 which is the first species of the invention for prosecution on the merits to fulfill the
requirement of election pursuant to 37 U.S.C. § 1.143. This election should in no
way prejudice Applicant's right to pursue the subject matter in Group II, claims 2-18
in a divisional application if the restriction requirement is not withdrawn.

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The claims directed to the species of Group I are as follows: claims 1 and 19-32. It is also respectfully submitted that the claims of Group II, claims 2-18 are a species of the invention of claim 1 and therefore applicant is entitled to have the above-listed claims of Group I examined along with a reasonable number of species, i.e., the claims of Group II.

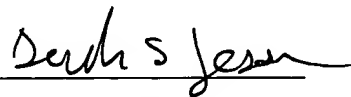
Applicant respectfully but strenuously traverses the restriction requirement in the application. A search performed addressing the elected claims would inevitably include a substantial portion of the material addressed in the non-elected claims. Applicant respectfully submits based on the desire for an overall efficient prosecution of the application, the Examiner should reconsider the necessity of the restriction requirement.

Applicant respectfully submits the Restriction in the Official Action dated July 3, 2003 should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

If further matters remain in connection with this Restriction requirement, the Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicant's undersigned representative to resolve them.

Respectfully submitted,



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August 1, 2003